

Application No.: 10/089,869  
Filing Date: July 8, 2002  
Docket No.: 753-13 PCT/US/RCE  
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**E. Remarks/Arguments:**

**Introduction**

Claims 1, 2 and 4 were previously cancelled. Claims 3 and 5 are rejected. Applicant hereby amends claim 3 and 5.

Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims obviate the Examiner's rejections. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

**Section 112 Rejections**

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response applicant has amended Claim 5 to recite that the washer is attached to a tensioning nut of a collet chuck arrangement. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 112 rejection.

**Section 102 Rejections**

Claims 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,166,606 to Kawolics. (hereinafter Kawolics et.al.) Applicant respectfully traverses.

Kawolics discloses a sealing arrangement for fluid control devices. In contrast, the present invention provides as defined in Claim 3 that the fluid control device is not a comparable to a rotating collect chuck having the special operating conditions of high rotation speed. In

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addition, there is also a significant structural difference. The annular chamber which houses the sealing body is wider than the sealing body but only somewhat deeper. Towards the outside the chamber is narrowing such that the sealing ring is pressed into the space between the stem and the cylindrical wall of the groove thereby effecting the sealing function.

According to the present invention, the sealing ring is not squeezed between two or three surfaces. This is achieved by the novel structural distinction that the annular groove is not only wider but also deeper over its entire axial extension. This distinction is clarified in amended independent Claim 3 by adding the wording over its entire axial length" after "wider". Because of this novel structural arrangement the sealing function is effected directly, i.e. only by the fluid pressure, and not indirectly via any squeezing action.

Thus, Kawolics fails to disclose the present invention as presently defined by independent claims. The present invention, does not include a sealing washer for sealing a rotating collet chuck arrangement of a machine tool as in Kawolics. As such, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3 and 5 are not anticipated by the cited reference. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3 and 5 are allowable.

### Summary

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 3, is patentably distinct from the cited reference, and is thus allowable. Claim 5, being dependent on independent claim 3 is allowable therewith. Thus, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is therefore respectfully solicited.

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Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the above, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number given below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2461.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stephen Cannavale", is written over a horizontal line.

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